

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06297 271731Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----052487 271740Z /41
O 271724Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6048

S E C R E T CAIRO 06297

STADIS/////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (ERICH F. VON MARBOD)
SUBJECT: PROPOSED TRAVEL OF DOD OFFICIAL ERICH VON MARBOD

REF: (A) STATE 43538, (B) CAIRO 5451

1. IN REF B, I CONCURRED IN VON MARBOD'S PROPOSED VISIT TO EGYPT SUBJECT TO GAMASY'S APPROVAL. I PLAN TO RAISE MATTER IN MY MEETING WITH GAMASY LATER THIS EVENING. REF A IMPLIED THAT VON MARBOD WOULD ARRIVE ALONE AND INDICATED WE ANXIOUS TO AVOID PRESS COVERAGE OF HIS VISIT.

2. I AM NOW INFORMED BY DATT THAT VON MARBOD INTENDS TO BRING THREE OFFICERS WITH HIM, INCLUDING MAJOR GENERAL ALMOND. I HAVE NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO VISIT OF LARGER GROUP, BUT THE LARGER GROUP WILL MAKE IT THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO AVOID PRESS ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY WHEN A MAJOR GENERAL IS ALONG. A FOUR-MAN TEAM IS ALSO BOUND TO BE CONFUSED BY EGYPTIANS WITH SECDEF PROPOSAL TO SEND TECHNICAL TEAM TO EGYPT.

3. PLEASE ADVISE IF DEPT'S IMPRESSION WAS THAT VON

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MARBOD WOULD COME ALONE OR WITH TEAM. IF HE COMES WITH TEAM, AS INDICATED DATT MESSAGES, THERE IS NO WAY TO GUARANTEE THAT PRESS COVERAGE WILL BE AVOIDED. I HAVE ASKED DATT TO MAKE THIS POINT TO VON MARBOD, WHO IS NOW IN JIDDA AND SUGGEST HE COME ALONE. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

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TAGS: OVIP, (VON MARBOD, ERICH F)
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